

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
June 22, 2010
6:00 P.M.**

Members Present: Fred Bryan, Glenn Allen, Bill Shore, Toyge Davis, Junior Snyder,
Absent: Jim Duffy & Steve Cummings

Guests Present: Mayor Howell, Glenn Diehl, Dennis O'Neill, Michelle Steele, Pete Lau, Dave Freidman,
William Fansler, Chief Brian Sheller, Rich Wright, Tara & Chris Anciborenko, Davis Howell

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

President Bryan opened up the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE #226 / STATE STREET BRIDGE

The Public Hearing is to discuss proposed ordinance #226, lowering the weight limit from 10 ton to 5 ton.

LETTER FROM RUSS KILMER

President Bryan announced that Russ Kilmer could not be present at the meeting but asked that his letter be read to the attendees at the Public Hearing. President Bryan read the following:

June 16, 2010

Mr. Fred Bryan
President
Avondale Borough Council

Subject: State Street Bridge

Dear Fred:

This letter is in reference to the proposed weight reduction restrictions by the Borough Council for the State Bridge located in the Borough of Avondale and how those weight restrictions will affect some aspects of public safety for the Borough residents and London Grove Township residents located just over the bridge from the center of the Borough.

I cannot attend the public hearing on June 22, 2010 as I am working at an Exercise at the Chester County Government Services Building. I would like this letter read to the attendees at the public hearing.

I cannot disagree with the decision of the Borough Council to reduce the weight limit on the bridge but I don't want the bridge issue get lost in bureaucratic conflicts and not get repaired in a timely manner. There needs to be some type of timely plan to have the bridge repaired to a reasonable weight limit.

As you are aware I am the Fire Marshal for Avondale Borough and a resident of Indian Run Road and I am concerned with the fact the 5 ton limit of the bridge will prohibit Avondale Fire Company Fire Apparatus and Emergency Medical Service Ambulances from using the bridge. This restriction will require them to use alternate routes to respond to emergencies in our section of the Borough and London Grove Township and restricts them from using the most direct route.

On June 16, 2010 we used one of the Avondale Fire Department's vehicles and a stop watch to determine the difference in response times to Indian Run Road.

One test was driving the State Street route (which is the usual response route to our part of the Borough) and one test was driving the alternate route of Ellicott Avenue to Creek Road and Indian Run Road.

We did the drive at 7:00 P.M. in order to miss most of the traffic issues. We drove at normal speeds and no emergency warning devices were used.

One item noted was the standard response route from the Firehouse onto Route 41 to State Street (over the bridge in question) to Indian Run Road could have been faster if warning devices were used but the Ellicott Road route could not have been driven in a faster time due to the hills and winding road.

Driving results were:

Normal response route time:

2 minutes 5 seconds

Ellicott Road Route time:

7 minutes and 50 seconds

The Avondale Fire Chief has proposed having the West Grove Fire Company automatically dispatched to any call in the Borough and London Grove Township that is affected by the bridge weight restriction, so we timed what the response from West Grove Fire Company would be. Those times were.

Prospect Avenue to State Road to Indian Run Road:

5 minutes and 9 seconds

Prospect Avenue to State Road to School House Road to Avondale Road to Indian Run Road.

8 minutes and 14 seconds

As you can see by the numbers above the response times to our part of the Borough and London Grove Township would be almost four times longer due to the fire department having to use alternate routes. If an emergency occurs time is of the essence and increasing a response time certainly does not help.

Again, I don't disagree the bridge is possibly unsafe for vehicles over 5 tons and I don't propose having emergency vehicles exempt and using an unsafe route, but I want to make the point that the issue cannot be lost or forgotten in politics. The Borough has a responsibility to keep pursuing the issue with the County and State to have the bridge repaired so emergency services can use the most direct route.

Russ Kilmer

RICK WRIGHT - HILLS OF LONDON GROVE

Mr. Wright said he is here on behalf of the residents of the Hills of London Grove located on the other side of the State Street Bridge in London Grove Township. We are all pretty startled and pretty alarmed that a fire truck or ambulance can not get to them in an emergency by way of the State Street Bridge. Mr.

Wright expressed concerns about the letter from Mr. Kilmer and the differences in the response time. Mr. Diehl explained that the bridge is County owned but the County is not taking ownership. The Borough is protecting the welfare of the public by taking this necessary step by reducing the weight limit.

After discussion, Council asked residents to get involved and contact the appropriate representatives regarding their concerns.

ORDINANCE #226 – ADOPTION

Bill Shore made a motion to adopt Ordinance #226, 2nd by Junior Snyder, motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – GRANT APPLICATIONS

Dennis O’Neill said we are in the Community Block Grant Application cycle. Grant applications are due to the County by June 30th and we are proposing three separate projects.

The first project is to extend a 12” water main, within First Avenue, from Pennsylvania Avenue to Chatham Street, from Chatham to Second Avenue. This project includes replacement of existing stormwater facilities including inlets and culverts. Upon completion, portions of Pennsylvania Avenue, First Street, Chatham Street and Morris Street will be constructed.

The Second Application (project #2) is to extend a 12” water main from State Street, southeasterly along Pennsylvania Avenue, approximately 320 feet. The new main would cross under the White Clay Creek.

The Third Application (project #3) would fund a project to install approximately 445 linear feet of storm sewer, 2 inlets and one storm manhole within the rights-of-way of the 500 block of Morris Street and 5th Avenue from Morris Street to Pennsylvania Avenue.

RESOLUTION #2010-5 – PROJECT 1

Toyge Davis made a motion to adopt Resolution #2010-5 and authorize the appropriate Borough Official to sign the resolution, 2nd by Bill Shore, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2010-6 - PROJECT 2

Junior Snyder made a motion to adopt Resolution #2010-6 and authorize the appropriate Borough Official to sign the resolution, 2nd by Bill Shore, motion carried.

Glenn Allen took over the meeting. President Bryan is abstaining on Resolution #2010-7 since his personal property is involved. President Bryan will submit a letter stating this fact.

RESOLUTION #2010-7 - PROJECT 3

Toyge Davis made a motion to adopt Resolution #2010-7 and to authorize the appropriate Borough Official to sign the resolution, 2nd by Bill Shore, Fred Bryan-abstained, motion carried.

The Public Hearing’s were closed

RESIDENT AND PUBLIC COMMENT

TARA ANCIBORENKO – 314 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

Ms. Anciborenko said last Thursday she was unaware the Borough was working on the water and her water was brown. Ms. Anciborenko said she did laundry with brand new baby clothes and they are ruined. Ms. Anciborenko said she is concerned and asked if there could be some kind of notice sent to the customers before this happens again. President Bryan said when we are scheduled for work on the water system we notify the residents; this was an unscheduled incident that happened. President Bryan

said the Borough has no means of reimbursing her for the clothes and apologized for any inconvenience this may have caused her.

CHIEF BRIAN SHELLER – PARKESBURG POLICE

Chief Seller said the Parkesburg Police is proud to serve the residents of Avondale Borough and he is here to answer any questions on the services they provide. Officer Anderson is Avondale's community policing officer and has done an outstanding job in the community. Depending on the time of year, we provide service to the Borough 2 – 5 days of week at 8 hrs per day or sometimes greater.

The State Police does not enforce local ordinances so this is where Parkesburg Police comes and we will be enforcing the newly adopted bridge ordinance. Officer Anderson and other officers within the police department are certified to conduct inspections on commercial vehicles. Chief Sheller said if there is something they can do to increase the value of the police for the Borough please let him know. Chief Sheller thanked Council for giving him the opportunity to speak and Council thanked Chief Sheller for coming.

EEMA

NOISE STUDY

The noise study is schedule for Tuesday, June 29th and will approximately take two hours. They will be taking readings at the property line of the WWTP that may impact the neighboring properties. Council agreed that they would like the study conducted at the property lines in question. Toyge Davis made a motion to notify the residents along Indian Run Road and West State Street that we are going to be doing a noise study at their property lines, 2nd by Junior Snyder, motion carried. The Secretary will send out the letters today.

Ellis Snyder made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m., 2nd by Jim Duffy, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Brownback
Borough Secretary